County of Los Angeles **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES**



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October 21, 2004

TO:

Each Supervisor

180 Collections

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

YVONNE B. BURKE Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY Third District

> DON KNABE Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH Fifth District

FROM:

Bryce Yokomizo, Director

SUBJECT: DIRECT DEPOSIT QUARTERLY REPORT

This is to provide you with an update on the Direct Deposit Program. For the third quarter of 2004 (July - September), the average number of monthly cash issuances by direct deposit increased from 10,770 to 12,238. Please note that this increase is largely attributed to the number of supplemental payments issued in September of 2004 as a result of the CalWORKs Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA).

The following chart details the payments issued for the quarter:

Month	Payments Using Direct Deposit		
	Monthly	Supplemental*	Total
July	9,700	818	10,518
August	9,685	1,116	10,801
September	9,634	5,760	15,394

^{**} Supplemental Payments are payments that are authorized and generated after the system cut-off date for the payment month. These payments may include additional eligible benefits for the month due to a change in income and/or household composition, or the regular monthly benefit.

We continue to focus on our outreach efforts to increase the number of direct deposit cases due to the advantages of direct deposit to our participants. With direct deposit, benefits are automatically deposited on the first of each month and there is no staggered benefit date, as with EBT. Furthermore, through direct deposit, participants can establish relationships with financial depository institutions which will assist them in their transition from public assistance to the mainstream economy.

As we remain focused on our on-going outreach efforts, we anticipate that the number of direct deposit cases will increase in the coming months. Since our last report to you, we have collocated bank representatives in nine additional district offices to provide participants with information on bank accounts and to assist those wishing to take advantage of direct deposit with the enrollment process.

To increase the number of direct deposit cases, we will continue to focus on the following activities:

- Reviewing direct deposit material with CalWORKs applicants during their home interview:
- Reviewing direct deposit material with all cash aid applicants/participants during the intake process, and any point of contact thereafter;
- Including direct deposit information in all cash aid packages mailed to participants as part of their annual redetermination of eligibility; and
- Collocating bank representatives at additional district offices based on the availability of banking representatives willing to collocate.

I will continue to update your Board quarterly on our progress in increasing direct deposit enrollments.

BY:gh

c: Auditor-Controller Chief Administrative Officer County Counsel